



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 1 July 2008

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- Alltech opened a state-of-the-art Center for Animal Nutrigenomics and Applied Animal Nutrition at its corporate headquarters in Kentucky. Researchers will analyze the health and performance status of livestock and the best nutritional interventions for peak production potential. (See item [18](#))
- The Federal Emergency Management Agency reports that hundreds of levees must be certified as sound over the next few years in order to be registered on government flood maps that are being updated. (See item [40](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors](#); [Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *June 30, CEP News* – (International) **Crude oil hits record.** Oil rose to a record above \$143 on Monday. New York Mercantile Exchange crude is up \$1.85 to \$142.07 per barrel after hitting a record high of \$143.67 at 6:29 a.m. Traders are also parsing reports of violence in Nigeria after conflicting reports of a weekend attack on a Shell facility. Nigerian newspapers carried reports of an attack on a houseboat owned by Shell and one said a station in Bonny was damaged. A Shell spokesman who spoke with Reuters denied an attack had taken place. Rebels claimed responsibility for an attack and have shown increasing effectiveness.
Source: <http://www.economicnews.ca/cepnews/wire/article/95132>

2. *June 30, Bloomberg* – (International) **Chevron’s Nigeria strike leaves oil output unaffected.** Chevron Corp.’s worker strike in Nigeria last week did not cut oil production from the West African nation, the petroleum minister said. Output is about 1.886 million barrels a day, he said Monday. Nigeria produced 1.9 million barrels a day in May, according to Bloomberg estimates. The Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria, or Pengassan, called off its strike on June 27 after talks between the government and company officials. The country has “some production lost from militant activity” and not from the strike, the minister said.
Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601116&sid=anmWzoNTe5Pg&refer=af rica>
3. *June 27, Reuters* – (California) **Wildfire threatens key California power lines.** Wildfires in northern California caused major power lines to trip off-line on Friday afternoon, and the state power grid manager restricted maintenance work by utilities for the rest of the day, said the California Independent System Operator (ISO). Two of the three 500-kilovolt lines on the California-Oregon Intertie were taken off-line automatically when fires and smoke caused them to arch. While they returned to service, they were flowing at a reduced rate of about 2,200 megawatts (MW) late Friday afternoon. The lines have a capacity to carry 4,800 MW, and generally carry a little less than that at peak periods. A spokesman for the California ISO said the grid manager and fire officials continue to watch the fires and their proximity to the lines, but the danger seemed to lessen Friday afternoon. “We were definitely on pins and needles for a while,” he said.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN2744677720080627>

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Chemical Industry Sector

4. *June 28, Advocate* – (Louisiana) **Exxon shutdown spurs safety measure.** An “unplanned unit shutdown” at ExxonMobil Chemical Plant forced the facility to burn several flares Friday as a safety precaution, according to a news release from ExxonMobil. According to a news release from the facility, the company is working to return the unit to normal operations. As of 4:30 p.m. Friday, about three flares were still operating, said the public affairs manager for ExxonMobil. “The cause of the incident hasn’t been determined at the moment,” he said. He said he could not give an estimate as to how long it would take to get operations back to normal.
Source: <http://www.2theadvocate.com/news/22227879.html>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

5. *June 30, Reuters* – (Connecticut) **Dominion shuts Connecticut Millstone 2 reactor.**
Dominion Resources Inc. shut Unit 2 at the Millstone nuclear power station from full power on Saturday after seeing some oscillations in the feedwater heater system, a spokesman for the plant said Monday. He said the company was still investigating the cause of the problem and could not say when the unit would return to service. In a report to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the company said it shut the unit due to the loss of both feedwater pumps. That loss occurred while operators were performing main turbine stop valve testing. The report however did not link the shutdown to the testing.
Source:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN3026692620080630>
6. *June 27, Reuters* – (Louisiana) **Entergy La. River Bend reactor cut to 18 pct power.**
Entergy Corp.'s River Bend nuclear power reactor was reduced to 18 percent power by Friday morning so workers could check on a warning indicator for a pump in the unit's cooling system, a company spokesman said. Workers are checking to see why a low level of lubrication was indicated on a pump that recirculates water for the unit's cooling system, said an Entergy spokesman. To conduct the investigation and possible maintenance work, power output was brought down to 18 percent and kept there so that if the issue turns out to be minor, the plant can return to full output on the quick, he said.
Source:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN2745447020080627>
7. *June 27, Daily Camera* – (Colorado) **NIST: Employees ingested, inhaled plutonium.**
An undisclosed number of employees with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Boulder could potentially be facing serious illness after tests revealed that they inhaled or ingested plutonium earlier this month, agency officials said Friday. More employees may be found with internal contamination once more precise testing is carried out, officials with the federal lab said Friday. Those results will not be available for up to four weeks. A NIST spokeswoman said that a "small number" of lab employees had been detected with internal contamination but said they were among the original 22 employees exposed June 9. An aide to a U.S. House representative said hearings dealing with the plutonium release at NIST have been scheduled for July 15 before the U.S. House Science Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation. A U.S. senator said, "NIST and other federal labs that work with dangerous materials and chemicals should immediately review their safety procedures, bolster protections and work to regain the confidence of employees and the public."
Source: <http://www.dailycamera.com/news/2008/jun/27/nist-workers-ingested-plutonium-new-contamination/>

Defense Industrial Base Sector

8. *June 29, Military and Aerospace Electronics* – (National) **Marine Corps, Northrop Grumman team completes G/ATOR design review.** The U.S. Marine Corps' new Ground/Air Task Oriented Radar (G/ATOR) moved closer to production with the successful conclusion of the program's formal Preliminary Design Review (PDR) at Northrop Grumman Corp.'s Electronic Systems sector headquarters in Baltimore. The mobile G/ATOR system supports the Marine Corps' expeditionary warfare requirements. The radar system will provide enhanced capabilities to detect, track, and provide target quality data to engage hostile aircraft, cruise missiles, unmanned air vehicles. The data will include the location of hostile rockets, mortars, and artillery. Intended as a replacement for five existing Marine Corps radars, G/ATOR will provide air traffic control capabilities as well. The PDR consisted of a government review and subsequent approval of the G/ATOR system and subsystem design for hardware and software including a program management review of cost and schedule. The PDR was attended by more than 70 Marine Corps, Navy, Army, and other Department of Defense officials and civilian subject matter experts.

Source:

http://mae.pennnet.com/Articles/Article_Display.cfm?Section=ONEWS&PUBLICATION_ID=32&ARTICLE_ID=333110&C=ONEWS&dcmp=rss

9. *June 27, Jane's Information Group* – (National) **US Air Force losing patience on joint CAS approach.** The U.S. Air Force (USAF) has decided that it should follow its own path in enhancing the efficiency of the support that it provides to ground forces via its own tactical air controllers and close air support (CAS) aircraft. At the same time, it remains party to continuing joint service attempts to create a single common digital communications standard and message protocol for line-of-sight machine-to-machine data communications between joint tactical air controllers (JTACs) and CAS aircraft from the USAF, U.S. Marines Corps (USMC), or U.S. Navy. Speaking at the recent Defense IQ Sensor to Shooter 2008 conference staged in London, USAF major from the Air Ground Operations School at Nellis Air Force Base, told delegates that the USAF now intends to "capitalize on its inherent tactical datalink strength." This implies extending reliance on Link 16 and the Situation Awareness Data Link, the latter based on the Enhanced Position Location Reporting System networking waveform used by the U.S. Army and USMC for terrestrial communications. The findings of the Joint Forces Command Coalition Combat Identification Exercise 'Bold Quest' in September 2007, he noted, showed that many aircraft still lacked a compatible means of digital communications with the machine-to-machine communications terminals introduced for use by JTACs from the various U.S. services. The findings also indicated that there was still no common digital communications standard, either between the various U.S. forces or allied forces, and that there was continued piecemeal implementation of differing message transfer protocols by the individual services.

Source: http://www.janes.com/news/defence/idr/idr080627_1_n.shtml

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Banking and Finance Sector

10. *June 29, ZDNet* – (National) **HSBC sites vulnerable to XSS flaws, could aid phishing attacks.** HSBC Holdings plc-owned domains are vulnerable to XSS flaws which could easily aid in a phishing attack. Evidently, major unwanted consequences could be a result of multiple cross-site scripting vulnerabilities affecting bank web sites. Scammers can register domains and set up fake bank web sites in a few minutes. With the help of bulk e-mailers they can phish personal sensitive data from thousands of unsuspecting web users. If they want to own HSBC's e-banking customers, all they have to do is to register a "suspicious" looking domain like hscsbc.com which is currently available and then serve a phishing page.

Source: <http://blogs.zdnet.com/security/?p=1365>

11. *June 28, 13 Orlando* – (Florida) **Online e-mail scams.** Two new scams are creating lots of problems. The first scam says it comes from Bank of America, with official looking letterhead with links that connect you with actual Bank of America sites. There is an e-mail explaining why you received this e-mail though Bank of America, which says it does not send out unsolicited e-mails. It also has the privacy and secure message that assures your account information is safe. Again, there are copies from the real Bank of America site that are pasted in to look official. Neither Bank of America, nor other banks, ever asks for any personal information over the Internet. If you click on the reply link and fill in the blanks, your account information will be stolen. The latest scam says a person has money and wants to send it to you. This time the e-mail claims to come from a U.S. Army sergeant who has found \$8 million of Saddam's money in barrels outside Saddam's old palace. His brother-in-law was killed by a roadside bomb, and a dying British medical doctor gave him the package of money. He has survived two suicide bomb attacks, shot, and wounded. He can get it home to the U.S. to split with you if you just contact him as soon as possible.

Source:

http://www.cfnews13.com/Technology/YourTechnology/2008/6/28/online_email_scams.html

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Transportation Sector

12. *June 30, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Two companies aim for bridge work.** Two companies with Ohio ties are marketing sensors they say detect strains on bridges early, perhaps preventing failures like the one that killed 13 people and injured another 145 when a Minneapolis bridge collapsed. Roctest Ltd., based in St-Lambert, Quebec, with a development office in Mentor, made a pitch this month to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to use its system when Cleveland's Interstate 90 Inner Belt Bridge is repaired, tentatively scheduled to begin in two years. The transportation department has not decided what type of sensors it will use. It has used electronic sensors on previous projects and probably will use some type of sensor on the Inner Belt job, said ODOT's bridge inspector for Cuyahoga County. The almost mile-long bridge feeds traffic from the west and south over the Cuyahoga River into downtown. ODOT

may use the sensors during the renovation, but he said it will return to the more common inspection and density tests once the project is done. Fiber-optic sensors are gaining traction in Europe and Asia, where the technology is built into many bridges and other large structures. Officials here have been slower to adopt the sensors. While demonstrations have taken place throughout the country, the first real uses are just beginning.

Source:

<http://www.mansfieldnewsjournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080630/BUSINESS/80630013>

13. *June 30, Reuters* – (Arizona) **Six killed as two helicopters crash in Arizona.** Six people were killed and one was seriously injured on Sunday when two medical helicopters collided on their way to a hospital in Flagstaff, Arizona, air officials said. The helicopters crashed near Flagstaff at about 3.45 p.m. PDT, a spokesman with the Federal Aviation Administration in Los Angeles said. Preliminary reports indicated at least one patient was among the three people killed in a helicopter operated by Air Methods Corp, he said. The other four fatalities, as well as the injury, occurred aboard a helicopter operated by Classic Helicopter of Utah, he added. A spokesman for the Flagstaff Police Department said two rescue workers were slightly injured in a secondary blast as one of the helicopters on the ground exploded. A fire started by the crash burned about 10 to 15 acres, but was quickly contained.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/newsOne/idUSN2936394420080630>

14. *June 28, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Train carrying radioactive material derailed.** A train with cars containing radioactive material derailed in northeast Kansas on Friday evening, but authorities said no one was in danger. The local fire chief said about 25 to 30 cars were involved in the incident in Atchison, but no one was injured. The train had three cars with radioactive material, but they did not appear to be damaged. The fire chief said train traffic likely will be rerouted for several days.

Source: http://www.kansascity.com/news/breaking_news/story/683332.html

15. *June 27, KY3 Springfield* – (Missouri) **Eighth person admits role in unearned commercial driver licenses scheme.** The former superintendent of a trucking school in West Plains pleaded guilty on Thursday for his role in a scheme to help immigrants get unearned commercial drivers licenses. The man, who is eighth person to plead guilty in the case, ran the South Central Career Center, which closed after a federal investigation found citizens of Bosnia and Somalia were given passing grades without completing their driving exams.

Source: <http://www.ky3.com/news/local/22056004.html>

16. *June 27, Associated Press* – (Oregon) **Ore.: Portland roads open after train derailment.** A major Portland interchange is open after crews worked through the night to repair damage from a train derailment. More than 30 rail cars carrying lumber jumped the tracks Thursday in northeast Portland at the heart of the Interstate 84 and Interstate 205 interchange. Union Pacific crews worked quickly to remove derailed rail cars and repair tracks. Access to I-205 and I-84 ramps was impacted all day Thursday and

through the night during repairs.

Source:

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/apwire/ac76a0d4f6bf4b8e04089cacaf02dbee.htm>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

17. *June 30, Coloradoan* – (Colorado) Crews finish cleaning up Loveland ammonia leak.

Firefighters from across Northern Colorado finished cleanup of an ammonia leak at Engeman Enterprises on Sunday and cleared the building to open again. The cleanup of the ammonia leak started Saturday morning and continued through Sunday evening. Because ammonia is lighter than air, fumes had risen and were hovering in the upper portions of the building. Firefighters initially responded to a report of a fire alarm at Engeman Enterprises, a food distribution company, on Saturday. When firefighters entered the building, they smelled ammonia and called in hazardous materials teams, who found three 150-pound cylinders that had been over-pressurized, the deputy fire marshal with Loveland Fire and Rescue said in a statement. One of the cylinders had ruptured, releasing the ammonia vapors. The two other tanks were visibly bulging, he said.

Source:

<http://www.coloradoan.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080630/NEWS01/806300333/1002/CUSTOMERSERVICE02>

18. *June 30, High Plains Journal* – (Kentucky) State-of-the-art research center is first of its kind in the world. Global animal health company Alltech cut the ribbon on its Center for Animal Nutrigenomics and Applied Animal Nutrition at its corporate headquarters. The center is dedicated to the study of the effect of nutrition on gene expression and represents a 20,000 square foot expansion of the company's existing research facility. The Nutrigenomics laboratory employs the latest technologies to generate databases detailing the effects of nutrition on gene expression profiles in the tissues of various species. The databases will be analyzed to determine the health and performance status of livestock and the best nutritional interventions for peak production potential. In addition to Nutrigenomics, the facility will house the company's research initiatives at its global headquarters, including the study of Functional Glycomics, Solid State Fermentation, Rumen Function and Ecology, Aquaculture, Organic Trace Minerals, and Biorefining. In coming years, the facility is expected to require 40 additional research professionals to be fully staffed. To help address this need, in 2007, Alltech formed a partnership with the University of Kentucky (UK) to advance research in the field of nutrigenomics. As part of this partnership, Alltech gave UK a \$900,000

grant that will, in part, help to place faculty and staff from the College of Agriculture at the company's Nutrigenomics facility.

Source: <http://www.hpj.com/archives/2008/jun08/jun30/State-of-the-artresearchcen.cfm>

19. *June 30, Science Daily* – (National) **Food inspection technology could kill waiter jokes.** For consumers, a more effective method of inspecting food products before they reach supermarket shelves means better-preserved and cleaner food on their dinner tables, and a reduction in the risk of food poisoning. An improved inspection system also means producers can offer better quality produce, reduce the risk of spoilage, and gain a competitive edge over rivals. Already in use commercially, the technology developed by the Modulinspex project uses low-energy X-rays to produce highly detailed images of food products and packaged goods. The images are then scanned via inspection software that can automatically detect any irregularities accurately and quickly. The system can be used to check seals on food wrappers locate packaging defects and find foreign particles of any size in any kind of food, from maggots in apples to grains of sand in bread. Even in an era of high food standards and sterilized packaged produce, those problematic foreign bodies and packaging flaws are more common than most people realize, says the managing director of Denmark-based InnospeXion, which helped develop the technology. By attaching a CMOS chip to the crystal that detects the X-rays in a low-energy system they have been able to build a detector capable of taking 300 images per second, enough to capture a crisp image of products moving on a conveyor belt at half-a-meter per second. The X-ray images have a resolution of 0.1 millimeters – 16 times better than existing high-power systems, making it possible to detect objects as small and fine as a herring bone.

Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/06/080628162829.htm>

20. *June 29, Dallas Morning News* – (National) **Recalls, rise in imported foods highlight strain on inspection system.** Customs and Border Protection officers take less than a minute per truck to determine which products enter the U.S. and find their way into grocery stores and restaurants across North Texas. A tiny percentage of agricultural products, seafood, and manufactured goods is actually inspected, say the critics. The in-country system would put U.S. inspectors in foreign countries or use third parties to check products before they are shipped to the U.S. It also would give the FDA mandatory recall powers over food products. Currently, the agency negotiates “voluntary” recalls. In fairness to Mexico, U.S. food producers were the subject of far more expansive recalls last year than foreign producers. The panel that came up with the U.S. president’s import safety plan also detected a series of problems with the current inspection system. Those include government computer databases involved in import safety that cannot communicate with each other, as well as a practice called “port shopping,” in which a shipment rejected at one port of entry can get through another. The health and human services secretary, said there is no estimate on what it would cost to upgrade computer systems, put more U.S. inspectors abroad and carry out the report’s other recommendations.

Source: http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/nation/stories/DN-productsafety_29int.1.ART.State.Edition2.4dc8330.html

21. *June 28, Reuters* – (Louisiana; National) **Citrus disease found in Louisiana: USDA.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) confirmed on Friday that a feared citrus-greening disease has been found in Louisiana, while the dangerous pest-feeding plant that causes the disease has been found in Mexico near the California border. An official at USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service said citrus greening had been reported in Louisiana earlier in the month. The pest had also been found in Tijuana near the California border, but not in California, she said. The Asian citrus psyllid, which was introduced to the United States from Asia, causes citrus greening disease. Greening does not pose a risk to people, but causes fruit from infected trees to become unmarketable. Psyllids, which are sometimes called jumping plant lice, feed on plants like pears, potatoes, and tomatoes, according to the University of California-Davis. "Once the Asian Citrus psyllid has arrived it's just a bad sign that greening could be not far behind," said a spokesperson with Florida Department of Agriculture. "It moves on wind. It's a very tough thing to manage." She said it had been found on six residential properties in Mexico two miles away from the border with California.
- Source:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUSWBT00930620080628?feedType=RSS&feedName=environmentNews>

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Water Sector

22. *June 30, Hartford Courant* – (Connecticut) **Beaches marred by runoff carrying filth into water.** The summer along Connecticut's shoreline and lakes is being marred by beach closings due to bacteria and contaminants. On any given summer day, dozens of swimming spots are one good rainfall away from being shut. The problem is that storm water runoff carries into the water feces from wild animals or pets and contaminants from highways, subdivisions, malls, and farms. At the Connecticut shore's 144 beaches that report testing data to the state, 65 closed for one or more days in 2007. Local authorities have been using many tactics to get to the source of contamination, including chasing geese away, installing a filtering dam where a brook feeds into the pond, and increasing the flow when the water level drops later in the season.
- Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/connecticut/ny-bc-ct--fouledbeaches0630jun30,0,547431.story>
23. *June 28, Middletown Journal* – (Ohio) **'Code Red' system warns residents of recent incident.** The city's emergency-alert system kicked in during last weekend's accident involving a chemical reaction at United Waste Water Services, which claimed the life of an employee and injured two city firefighters. The city manager said the city used its "Code Red" system to contact residents near the incident site. They were told to stay inside to avoid the dangerous fumes. The system automatically calls residents when there are emergencies such as boil advisories. The bank of phone numbers is updated periodically, and residents can have alternative phone numbers entered so that they can receive the warnings.

Source:

<http://www.middletownjournal.com/hp/content/oh/story/news/local/2008/06/28/mj062808middnotebook.html>

24. *June 27, CNN* – (Illinois) **Chicago's back alleys filter rainwater for Lake Michigan.** The Chicago program called Green Alleys aims to stop polluted rainwater in the city's alleyways from ending up in adjacent Lake Michigan. Chicago's 13,000 alleys, which allow rear access to buildings, date back to the 1800s. The 1,900 miles of back alleys ease access for garbage collection, loading, and parking. Many of the alleys were built without connections to storm sewers. The alleys are being resurfaced with concrete, asphalt, or paving stones that are permeable. Microbes that thrive on stuff like fertilizer and oil are seeded into the pavement or migrate there naturally. They cleanse the water of pollutants from cars and lawns. The cleaner water makes its way into the groundwater and then flows into Lake Michigan.

Source:

http://www.cnn.com/2008/TECH/biztech/06/27/green.concrete/index.html?eref=rss_tech

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

25. *June 30, Associated Press* – (California) **Calif. hospitals begin reporting 'adverse events'.** California hospitals reported that during a 10-month period ending in May, doctors performed the wrong surgical procedure, operated on the wrong body part, or on the wrong patient 41 times, records show. During the same period, hospitals reported that foreign objects were left in surgical patients 145 times. These types of errors, officially called "adverse events," are among the 1,002 cases of serious medical harm to patients disclosed by hospitals statewide, according to figures compiled by the California Department of Public Health. Under a new state law, hospitals must report to health officials all substantial injuries to their patients. The health department has levied \$25,000 fines against 10 hospitals that reported adverse events so far. The state has until 2015 to begin posting the self-reported incidents online

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_9742335

26. *June 30, DBTechno* – (Colorado) **West Nile virus hits Colorado, first cases confirmed.** The West Nile Virus has hit the state of Colorado. This comes as the first West Nile Virus cases of the season have been confirmed in the state. The Colorado State Department of Public Health has confirmed that there have been two cases reported thus far. One of the cases is from Boulder County, while the other is from Logan County. The two patients who have been hit by the West Nile Virus are said to be recovering.

Source: <http://www.dbtechno.com/health/2008/06/30/west-nile-virus-hits-colorado-first-cases-confirmed/>

27. *June 30, Associated Press* – (International) **4 countries to get new test for drug-resistant TB.** A new test to quickly diagnose drug-resistant forms of tuberculosis will

be rolled out in four African countries this year, the World Health Organization (WHO) said Monday. Lesotho, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, and Congo will begin using the \$5 test before the end of the year. A further \$15 has to be spent on lab equipment and staff salaries, bringing the total cost to \$20 compared with up to \$34 for older methods. The DNA-based test will cut the time it takes to detect multi-drug resistant TB from two to four months to a matter of hours, the director of WHO's tuberculosis program said in Geneva. Testing is currently "one of the major bottlenecks" in combating the disease, which becomes harder to treat the longer patients have to wait for the appropriate medication. Medical aid group Medecins Sans Frontieres welcomed the new speedier diagnosis, but said it remains to be seen how cost-effective the test will be. More than nine million people around the world fall sick with tuberculosis every year. Of those, about 500,000 get multi-drug resistant TB, which is immune to two types of antibiotic treatment. Patients with drug-resistant tuberculosis have to switch to more potent and expensive medicines.

Source:

<http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080630/NEWS07/80630044/1009>

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Government Facilities Sector

28. *June 28, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia; Maryland) **Air base ex-guard convicted of hiding Muslim name.** A southeast Washington man who did not disclose his Muslim name on an application for a job as a private security guard at Andrews Air Force Base was convicted yesterday of making a false statement. According to prosecutors, the man left his Muslim name off the application to conceal his ties to a local imam known for inflammatory comments. The man, whose first trial ended last year with a hung jury, was tried again this week in federal court in Greenbelt. After deliberating for about a day and a half, the jury found him guilty. The man's attorney argued that his client misunderstood the question – "Have you ever used or been known by another name?" – thinking it referred to a woman's maiden name. The U.S. attorney for Maryland has defended the prosecution, saying it is not about the defendant's religion, but about ensuring the security of U.S. government installations.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/06/27/AR2008062703451.html?hpid=moreheadlines>

29. *June 27, Associated Press* – (International) **Morales praises coca growers for kicking out U.S. agency.** Bolivia's president says he is "proud" of coca growers in Bolivia's Chapare region for expelling a U.S. government aid agency amid charges it backs his government's opponents. The president calls the region's decision to suspend operations of the U.S. Agency for International Development "part of a growing rebellion against the empire," a reference to the United States. On Wednesday, the embassy expressed concern about the security of the agency's staff in Chapare.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2008/WORLD/americas/06/27/bolivia.coca.ap/index.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

30. *June 30, Homeland Security Today* – (Oregon) **Nuclear terror: Federal/local coordination still a challenge.** The assistant secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs, U.S. Department of Defense spoke at a hearing entitled, Nuclear Terrorism: Providing Medical Care and Meeting Basic Needs in the Aftermath at the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. He reported that there has been significant progress in developing a coherent high-level national framework for rapid response to a terrorist nuclear incident. He added, however, that for all the good news at the national level, translating strategy into seamless tactical coordination and execution remains fraught with challenges. "The Federal Government can have the best, most detailed plan for responding to the 15 National Planning Scenarios," he warned, "but that only gives us a Federal response, one that may not effectively support – or, worse yet, may conflict with -- the regional and/or State responses (which also may not be mutually supportive). Federal, regional, State, and local plans must be integrated and synchronized to give us a truly national response to a future catastrophic incident." An equally pressing gap, according to another witness is medical surge capacity, which is still lacking in communities across the nation. "The federal government," he said, "should provide leadership in marshaling expertise to develop best practices and creative solutions for communities to address a host of issues related to incidents which may involve mass casualties, as well as the need for medical surge capacity, especially for hospitals. This guidance must be developed in full partnership with local practitioners, and should address the needs of communities of all sizes."

Source: <http://hstoday.us/content/view/4038/149/>

31. *June 28, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Terror watch uses local eyes.** Hundreds of police, firefighters, paramedics and utility workers have been trained and recently dispatched as "Terrorism Liaison Officers" (TLO) in Colorado and a handful of other states to hunt for "suspicious activity." They are reporting their findings in secret government databases. The program aims at feeding better data into terrorism early-warning systems and uncovering intelligence that could help fight anti-U.S. forces. But the vague nature of the TLOs' mission, and their focus on reporting both legal and illegal activity, has generated objections from privacy advocates and civil libertarians. "Suspicious activity" is broadly defined in TLO training as behavior that could lead to terrorism: taking photos of no apparent aesthetic value, making measurements or notes, espousing extremist beliefs, or conversing in code, according to a draft Department of Justice/Major Cities Chiefs Association document. U.S. intelligence and homeland security officials say they support the widening use of TLOs — state-run under federal agreements — as part of a necessary integrated network for preventing attacks

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_9725077

32. *June 28, Palladium-Item* – (Indiana) **Budget woes cut county health coordinators.** Established in the wake of September 11, 2001, anthrax fears and other terrorism-related mass epidemics, county public health coordinators were the first line of defense for quick response to such events. Among their duties were planning and practicing mass

immunization clinics, creating standard operating procedures and a local incident command structure to function if a health emergency arose. But reductions in federal funding for preparedness will end local grants to Indiana counties in August. To stretch its dollars, the Indiana Department of Health is replacing county coordinators with district coordinators, a switch that concerns area county health officials. When the plan to end local coordinators was first proposed a year ago, the Wayne County Health Board wrote a letter to the state expressing its concerns. Building relationships with and cooperation from local first responders is critical to preparedness and response, which will be difficult to replicate on a district level, local officials say.

Source: <http://www.pal-item.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080628/NEWS01/806280303>

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Information Technology

33. *June 30, The Baltic Times* – (International) **Hackers place Soviet symbols on hundreds of websites.** Foreign hackers broke into more than 300 Lithuanian websites and covered them with former Soviet symbols. The majority of websites were hosted on the servers of Hostex (formerly known as Microlink), the chief expert with the networks and information security department with the Communications regulatory authority (RRT), told BNS. “It seems to be a planned attack. Yet we cannot tell as yet which country it comes from”, he said. The head of RRT networks and information security department told a public radio station that the attackers mostly targeted the websites of private companies. While Lithuanian head of the Cabinet assures that state institutions are prepared for potential cyber attacks, the hackers also broke into the webpage of ruling Social Democrat party, chaired by the prime minister himself. Swear word filled Russian text was displayed with the flag of former Soviet Union in the background in the official website of the Lithuanian Social Democrat party. An analogous break in with the same text and same symbols took place Saturday morning in the official website of the Chief Official Ethics Commission. The Communications Regulatory Authority said Saturday it has no information on who might have broken into the commission’s website and defiled it.

Source: <http://www.baltictimes.com/news/articles/20723/>

34. *June 27, Wired Blogs* – (National) **Hacker launches botnet attack via P2P software.** A 19-year-old hacker is agreeing to plead guilty to masterminding a botnet to obtain thousands of victims’ personal data in an anonymous scheme a federal cybercrime official described Friday as the nation’s first such attack in which peer-to-peer software was the “infection point.” The defendant launched the assault last year from his Cheyenne, Wyoming residence, and anonymously controlled as many as 15,000 computers at a time, said the chief of the Cyber and Intellectual Property Crimes Section for federal prosecutors in Los Angeles. As part of the deal, in which a judge could hand him up to five years imprisonment, the defendant has agreed to pay \$73,000 in restitution, the government said. “It’s the first time that we know of that peer-to-peer software was used as the infection point,” the cyber chief said in an interview with Threat Level. The malware infection became commonly known as the Nugache Worm, which embedded itself in the Windows OS. According to the plea agreement, the worm

was installed in various ways. “All of the data stored on the compromised machines would be available to defendant, including, but not limited to, credit card information,” according to the plea agreement. The agreement also said that he took control of financial accounts of his victims.

Source: <http://blog.wired.com/27bstroke6/2008/06/hacker-launches.html>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

35. *June 30, Computerworld* – (International) **NEC, Tyco plan Japan-U.S. cable.** NEC Corp., based in Tokyo and Tyco Telecommunications based in Morristown, New Jersey, announced last week they have begun joint planning work on the Unity undersea high-speed fiber-optic link between the U.S. and Japan. The \$300 million effort is funded by Google Inc., Bharti Airtel in New Delhi, Global Transit Communications in Kuala Lumpur, KDDI Corp. in Tokyo, Pacnet Internet in Singapore, and Singapore Telecommunications Ltd. The cable will initially contain dual optical-fiber cables for both primary service and backup. It will link Chikura, located off the Japanese coast near Tokyo, to Los Angeles and other sites on the West Coast.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=networking_and_internet&articleId=321299&taxonomyId=16

36. *June 27, SC Magazine* – (National) **Researchers reveal VoIP vulnerabilities.** VoIPshield Laboratories has alerted companies that market voice over internet protocol (VoIP) systems of new security vulnerabilities. VoIP vulnerabilities, if successfully exploited, could affect brand reputation, internal productivity, and competitive advantage, researchers said. VoIPshield does not reveal specifics about the vulnerabilities to the public, VoIPshield Laboratories' chief technology officer, told SCMagazineUS.com on Friday. “We don’t want to give hackers information to work from,” he said. Instead, under its disclosure policy, VoIPshield works with VoIP vendors to assist them in reproducing the vulnerabilities in their labs. VoIPshield classifies the vulnerabilities into different categories -- remote code execution; unauthorized access; denial of service; and information harvesting – and rates them according to their severity. The company said that by passing the information of their vulnerability research, the company hopes that vendors will be able to take action to create patches for potential exploits. Avaya, Cisco, and Nortel have acknowledged the latest vulnerabilities on their websites, and are issuing their own security advisories. VoIP vulnerabilities appear to be increasing because more security researchers are

focused on finding them, a Gartner representative told SCMagazineUS.com. “Three to four years ago, there was far less focus on IP telephony vulnerabilities because the IP telephony installed base was much smaller,” he said. “In 2008, most of the widely deployed telephony systems have vulnerabilities that permit DOS attacks, privilege escalation and code execution attacks.”

Source: <http://www.scmagazineus.com/VoIPshield-reveals-VoIP-vulnerabilities/article/111918/>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

37. *June 30, Reuters* – (International) **China announces Olympics stability drive after riot.** China has launched a nationwide campaign to defuse protest ahead of the Beijing Olympic Games, state media reported on Monday, days after a riot in the country’s southwest highlighted volatile social strains. With authorities eager to present China as a harmonious nation during the August Games, the government has ordered local officials to defuse petition campaigns by discontented citizens and to prevent “mass incidents,” such as riots and demonstrations, according to the news reports. Guaranteeing security is the top priority of the Beijing Olympics, the Chinese president has said. “The Beijing Olympics are approaching and properly carrying out petition and stability work, protecting social harmony and stability, and ensuring the Beijing Olympics go safely and smoothly has become a tough battle that every department at every level must win,” said one report of a nationwide video conference on a stability drive that was held on Saturday.

Source: <http://sports.yahoo.com/olympics/news?slug=reu-unrestdc&prov=reuters&type=lgns>

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

38. *June 29, Charlotte Observer* – (National) **National monument designation could save ecosystem.** The Bush administration’s Council on Environmental Quality asked marine advocacy groups and others late last year to suggest which areas in U.S. waters the president might name as national monuments. The Southeastern coral reefs are believed to be near the top of a short, final list. The monument would likely include four areas, covering 25,000 square miles that are already up for protection as important fish habitat by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. More than 120 scientists have also petitioned the president to create the monument. Scientists are just beginning to explore deep-water coral reefs, possibly millions of years old that stretch from North Carolina to Florida. Among the reefs’ most promising uses: as a living history of the seas. Some long-lived coral species form growth rings the way trees do. Their skeletons can reveal centuries of past water temperatures, pollutants and currents. Deep-ocean currents have a profound effect on the world’s climate. One threat comes from ocean water itself, which is becoming more acidic as the seas absorb excess carbon dioxide in the

atmosphere. Acidic water can block corals' ability to build their calcium carbonate skeletons, slowing or stopping their growth.

Source: <http://www.charlotte.com/local/story/691112.html>

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Dams Sector

39. *June 30, Yomiuri Shimbun* – (International) **Landslide caused big rise in dam's water level.** Massive landslides triggered by the Iwate-Miyagi Inland Earthquake caused a tsunami-like wave that hit the wall of the Aratozawa Dam in Kurihara, Miyagi Prefecture, raising the water level by about three meters, according to researchers. Experts said that if a larger amount of earth and rocks had fallen into the water, the dam could have been breached. The dam wall was built to avoid areas considered vulnerable to landslides. An official of the Tohoku Regional Agriculture Administration Office said it had not been anticipated that a landslide would cause the water level to rise so much. Source: <http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/dy/national/20080630TDY02302.htm>
40. *June 30, Scripps Howard News Service* – (National) **A hefty price: FEMA's redrawn flood maps could cause spike in need for extra home insurance.** Faced with warnings that scores of cities nationwide are at risk for serious failures of the levees protecting them, hundreds of communities are scrambling to inspect and upgrade their flood defenses. They are doing so not only to protect residents and businesses from inundation, but also to save them from what could be huge flood insurance bills. The problem is this: Unless a community's levees are certified by engineers as sound, they are not deemed to provide minimal protection against floods. As a result, under federal regulations, residents and businesses behind the levees would be treated as though there was no protection at all. A Scripps Howard News Service review of data from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) shows hundreds of levees must be certified as sound over the next few years in order to be registered on government flood maps that are being updated – in many places, for the first time in decades. Source: <http://www.courierpress.com/news/2008/jun/30/costly-remedy-for-flood-defense/>
41. *June 29, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Danger upstream: How safe are Utah's dams?** The Quail Creek Dam collapse of 1989 spurred Utah's legislature to improve dam-safety laws with updated design standards, enhanced inspector training, and stricter quake-resistant regulations. Yet even now, after more than 18 years and millions of dollars in improvements, scores of Utah dams still fall short of minimum safety standards, a problem magnified by the age of the structures, their seismic vulnerability, and the hazard-boosting effects of urban development in dam-flood zones across the state. Since the reforms of 1990, the state dam safety engineer said 191 dams so far have received the detailed compliance review ordered by law. Of those, 51 meet minimum safety standards (31 of those after the dams were rehabilitated). Owners of another 31 dams lower their safety risks by altering storage levels or spill flows, instead of doing reconstruction. The remaining 109 of these so-called high-hazard dams are either

prioritized for review or under investigation. Yet no dam is in imminent danger of failing, the engineer insisted.

Source: http://origin.sltrib.com/ci_9723382

42. *June 27, Bakersfield Californian* – (California) **Test of dam sirens fails.** A remote-triggered test of the dam failure sirens in Lake Isabella failed Friday. But a Kern County deputy fire chief said any troubles with the system, which sounds the sirens with a radio signal from the fire dispatch center in Bakersfield, will be quickly fixed. In a real emergency, the sirens would be sounded when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers informs county officials that a dam failure is imminent. The deputy fire chief said the sirens are part of a number of different systems designed to inform people when the dams on Isabella Lake are about to fail. He said the sirens themselves are operational and can be triggered manually in Lake Isabella. It was only the remote-trigger mechanism that failed Friday's test, he said.

Source: <http://www.bakersfield.com/102/story/483512.html>

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